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SUPERINTENDENT YBARRA PROPOSES PLAN TO REINFORCE TIES TO IESDB

(BOISE) -- Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra is proposing legislation to allow her to designate a member of her staff to represent her on the Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind board of directors in the event she is unable to attend a meeting.

Ybarra noted the change is designed to strengthen her ties with board, not reduce them, by making sure that if she cannot attend a meeting a staff member would have the official power and responsibilities to represent her. The proposed statutory language is similar to language used on other boards she sits on, which call for the superintendent or her designee to represent the superintendent's office on those boards.

If she is unable to attend any given monthly meeting of the board, she intends to use Dr. Charlotte "Charlie" Silva, the Department of Education's special education director, as her designee.

"Charlie will always be up to speed on the issues with the IESDB, and she reports directly to me, so if I can't make it, there won't be any lag time in being able to meet the needs of the state school and the students served by the IESDB," Supt. Ybarra said.

"Despite some erroneous press reports, I am not seeking to step away from that important board, and we thought the language in the bill was clear on that," she said.

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